DISCOVER-AQ Houston – Outlook September 3, 2013

Hot and humid conditions with light winds are persistent over the Houston area for the foreseeable future. The main differences from day-to-day are the direction from which the large-scale flow is coming from and the strength of the sea breeze. Upper-level disturbances may affect the cloud amount and the chances for thunderstorms on a given day.

Low-level large-scale flow is expected from the east tomorrow. However, a sea breeze will still likely develop in the afternoon, acting to strengthen the on-shore flow. Ozone maxima are expected to the west and southwest of Houston as a result. Cloud cover will be <30% during the early to mid morning, increasing to near 50% by 2 PM and possibly exceeding 50% between 2 and 5 PM. Clearing will occur behind the sea breeze front. Some chance of scattered thunderstorms exists.

Ozone will be the greatest along the coast in the morning with maxima moving to over the city by midday and moving farther to the west as the afternoon proceeds.

For Thursday we expect similar conditions to Wednesday with the exception of possibly more upper level clouds due the easterly wave in the Gulf south of the Houston area. Friday, the wave may produce precipitation along the coast, but this is uncertain at this point. Otherwise, Friday may be acceptable for a flight day.